

Barre City Homelessness Task Force
October 6th, 2021
City Council Chambers, or via Zoom

1. Call to Order: 7:07pm
2. Attendance:
Kelly Kerry, Ericka Reil, Rosemary Averill, Teddy Waszazak, Brooke Pouliot, Loren Polk, Phil Morris, Tammy Menard
Absent:
Joe Aldsworth
3. Adjustments to the Agenda:
None
4. Introductions/Hopes for the Task Force:
Ericka Reil – Ward 3 Councilor, 63 people between Barre and Montpelier experiencing homelessness. Wants this Taskforce help set up services
Kerry Kelly – Barre City Resident, experiencing homelessness, domestic violence and substance use advocate. Wants this Taskforce to get as many people housed as possible.
Teddy Waszazak – Ward 2 Councilor, housing insecure from 15-18 y/o. Wants this Taskforce to come up with suggestions about policy, procedure, and investments the City can make to help those with homelessness
Rosemary Averill – Barre City Resident
Tammy Menard – Montpelier resident, has been homeless herself in Barre City. Wants this Taskforce to get folks housed.
Brooke Pouliot – Community Outreach Specialist with Barre City PD. Want to use her knowledge of other groups to be involved and help here.
Phil Morris – Resident of Barre City, thinking of joining the Task Force, joined to hear what we're about. Currently volunteers with Good Samaritan.
Loren Polk – Director of the Aldrich Library. Library works as a day shelter, which has been extremely hard during COVID. Wants to see how she and the Library can help people in conjunction with the City.
5. Mission for the group:
Ericka gave an overall vision for the group: focusing on homelessness in Barre City.
Ericka asked the group to decide on 4 priorities –
 1. Improving/expanding outreach to homeless individuals in Barre and access to services
 - a. Work to establish an "Information Center", or "one-stop-shop" for accessing resources – work with Capstone and the Library
 2. Recommendation for American Rescue Plan Funding
 3. Work with community partners to set up warming stations
 4. Hygiene care, specifically showers

Notes:

Barre Interfaith Group will be acting as overnight overflow shelters at the churches

Capstone is starting a "Concierge" program to help people access resources

Library has space available for use for folks to access resources

GA Motel extension is set to expire at the end of October

6. Meeting Times/Location:

Weekly for now, on Wednesday's – 7pm, Virtually, or in Council Chambers

7. Adjourn:

7:53pm